**Primary Care Medical Home Initiative brings vision to reality in new Stephen D. Hayes Building**

The health center’s new building completed its final phase in February, establishing two new teams that are piloting innovative approaches to primary care. Based on the Primary Care Medical Home Model, these teams are focusing on fully integrating primary care with behavioral health care.

Our premise is that Behavioral Health is more than the control or absence of mental illness or substance abuse -- and that Primary Care is more than the control or absence of physical illness. Our vision is to promote and support effective and productive mental and physical health in all of our patients.

The Lynn Community Health Center was established in 1971 as a small storefront mental health clinic, and has long been recognized as a leader in the integration of primary and behavioral health care. This vision was pioneered by our founder Dr. Stephen D. Hayes, who was a leader in this field from the very beginning.

It is fitting that the building that bears his name continues to be at the leading edge of best practices in primary care. Our new space is specifically designed to facilitate integration.

A fully integrated care system not only allows for better coordination among a group of providers who share information, but also helps reduce the stigma that often prevents people from seeking treatment for mental health issues. We believe that fully integrated care services will “normalize” mental health care as just one more aspect of routine medical care.

**Dental Expansion**

The health center has received a $35,000 award from the Massachusetts Dental Society (MDS) to equip one of our 12 new dental operatories. The North Shore District of the Society presented the check to the Lynn Community Health Center at its March 8th monthly meeting.

MDS Foundation representative Dr. John Fisher presented the check. “We are proud to have contributed to such a significant expansion of dental services at the health center,” said Fisher, “This is a fine demonstration of the community service aspect of the Massachusetts Dental Society which steps beyond dentists being just for dentists. It is something of which we can all be justly proud.”

North Shore District Chairman Dr. Jeffrey Dornbush spoke about the importance the Health Center plays in ensuring that all North Shore residents have access to quality oral health care. “This clinic provides high level care to a very large volume of patients whose only means of accessing dental care would otherwise be a visit to the emergency room,” he said.

Dr. Dornbush made a compelling appeal to fellow district members to add their support to the Foundation’s by making a personal contribution.

(Continued on page 2)
Pink Angels

The Pink Angels, Inc, a nonprofit dedicated to aid in the elimination of breast cancer, has made a gift to support the health center’s Care Coordination Program, which provides breast cancer prevention, screenings, education and case management for low income and uninsured women.

The Pink Angels began in January 2005 as a walking team for the Susan G Komen 3-day for the Cure in Boston. That first year, 35 team members raised over $135,000. Since then the team has grown, and each year since 2006 has averaged 70 to 80 members who not only walk the Boston 3-day but have also walked in San Diego, San Francisco, Arizona, Philadelphia, Tampa, Washington DC, Cleveland, and Chicago. Since 2005 the team has raised $1.6 million for Susan G. Komen for the Cure.

In addition to their commitment to Susan G. Komen for the Cure, The Pink Angels have recently incorporated as an independent 501(c)(3) nonprofit that will benefit local organizations that address breast health issues. Funds raised will support breast cancer research and promote awareness through community service and education. The health center is among the first recipients of these funds.

In addition to the Care Coordination Program, women’s health programs at the health center include comprehensive obstetrics and gynecology services, on-site digital mammography and ultrasound, Women Infants and Children (WIC) nutrition program, and many patient education and support programs for women.

Mass Dental Society supports LCHC

(Continued from page 1)

starting by making a pledge of his own from the podium. By the end of the evening, more than $7,000 had been raised.

Berry expressed heartfelt appreciation to the MDS Foundation and to the North Shore District. “We are grateful to all of you for your incredible support,” she said. “We want to make sure our patients keep smiling. These contributions will ensure that we will be able to increase the number of dental patients we see by 4,800 individuals. On behalf of all of them, I thank you.”

The health center will use the MDS Foundation grant to equip one of twelve operatories in the Health Center’s new Dental Clinic, now located in LCHC’s new expansion facility. This building is funded in part by a $6 Million capital campaign which includes a $250,000 challenge grant from the Lynch Foundation. The MDS Foundation grant, and all other gifts to the campaign, will help the health center meet this challenge.
Celebrating Partnership: health center, Delta Dental, and Mass League of CHCs improve oral health

Last November, the Lynn Community Health Center, Delta Dental of Massachusetts, and the Massachusetts League of Community Health Centers held an event that highlighted a strong partnership between the three organizations that has led to increased access to oral health care among those most vulnerable in our state. Secretary of the Executive Office of Health and Human Services JudyAnn Bigby, MD, was recognized during the program for her efforts to improve access and promote oral health in the Commonwealth.

“Secretary Bigby recognizes the importance of oral health,” said Fay Donohue, Chief Executive Officer, Delta Dental of Massachusetts. “By improving, promoting and protecting the oral health of Massachusetts residents and children, she is bettering the overall health of the Commonwealth.”

“The importance of oral health should never be underestimated and is vital to the well-being of our community,” said Dr. Bigby. “It is an honor to help better oral health for all.”

The Health Center’s partnership with Delta Dental began in 2006. At that time, the Commonwealth faced a situation similar to that of the rest of the nation: poor access to basic dental care. Underserved and vulnerable people suffered from decayed teeth, gum disease, and life-threatening oral infections due to the absence of care.

Lynn Community Health Center’s Dental Clinic opened in 2001, but thanks to Delta Dental we were able to expand our services in 2006 to provide portable dental equipment for off-site dental care to school children and the elderly. Subsequent grants funded major renovations to our original dental clinic.

Since then we have grown exponentially and just last month moved our dental clinic into our new building, expanding it from six chairs to twelve.

“We are fortunate to have such incredible partners as we continue to grow to meet the oral health needs of our community,” said Lori Abrams Berry, LCHC Executive Director. “Thanks to Delta Dental, the Massachusetts League of Community Health Centers, and the State of Massachusetts, we are able to keep our community smiling.”

The Health Center’s partnership with Delta Dental began in 2006. At that time, the Commonwealth faced a situation similar to that of the rest of the nation: poor access to basic dental care. Underserved and vulnerable people suffered from decayed teeth, gum disease, and life-threatening oral infections due to the absence of care.

Lynn Community Health Center’s Dental Clinic opened in 2001, but thanks to Delta Dental we were able to expand our services in 2006 to provide portable dental equipment for off-site dental care to school children and the elderly. Subsequent grants funded major renovations to our original dental clinic.

HomeLink Help Desk

Patients and visitors to the Lynn Community Health Center now have access to a new clearinghouse for information on assistance with housing, material needs, and applying for benefit programs.

The HomeLink Help Desk is a project of the Massachusetts Coalition for the Homeless. The health center and the Mass Coalition have been working together since 2006 to help patients stay in their homes. In that time, on-site housing advocates have provided referrals to over 1,000 LCHC families. The HomeLink Help Desk is an extension of this partnership, designed to provide families with more comprehensive assistance.

Anly Belliard (pictured at right, with Yadira Carvajal) staffed the desk during its first day of operation. “We had 22 people in the first few hours,” she said. “Their needs were diverse, including referrals for housing assistance, requests for furniture and baby items, and help applying for food assistance.”

Dr. Herlivi Linares, Associate Director of the Dental Clinic, and her team take Secretary Bigby on a tour of the new clinic. At right, the Secretary thanks the health center, Delta Dental and the League for recognizing her support for oral health.
Women for Lynn Community Health Center Recognition Breakfast

Promoting the health and well-being of women and girls

Thursday, April 5, 2012

Honoring
Jackie Jenkins-Scott
President of Wheelock College
and
Paula Shorts
President of The Women’s Fund of Essex County

For their efforts and commitment to empower women in health care, education, and career development

Special Guest
Attorney General Martha Coakley

For tickets or information contact
Debra Bergman
781-596-2502 x769
dbergman@lchcnet.org

Proceeds will benefit our new building which includes an expanded digital mammography suite, a community room and teaching kitchen, and space for education and wellness programs.

Breakfast: 8:00 a.m.–9:30 am / Program: 8:30 am
Kernwood Country Club,, Salem MA
Tickets: $75